

✓ GQE Reality check

Since grade 3, you have been taking the Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress Plus (ISTEP+) to make sure you are learning what you need to know to succeed in school and in life. Solid reading, writing and math skills are must-haves for a successful future.

To ensure you have mastered these basics before you graduate from high school, you will need to pass Indiana's Graduation Qualifying Exam (GQE). You have to meet the GQE requirement to earn a diploma.

WHAT'S NEW THIS YEAR?

This year, Indiana is changing how students are tested for the GQE requirement. Instead of one big test in grade 10 that covers both math and English, the new GQE consists of two smaller tests you will take after completing courses in Algebra I* and English 10.

WHY IS INDIANA MAKING THIS CHANGE?

When students took the GQE in grade 10, time may have passed since they took classes such as Algebra I. By testing at the end of each course, the content will still be fresh.

The test also can include different types of questions that are better at making sure you learned the knowledge and skills necessary for future success. In addition, because you already take end-of-course tests in these subjects, changing the GQE requirement actually cuts down on the number of tests you have to take each year.

WHAT'S TESTED ON THE NEW GQE REQUIREMENT?

Algebra I and English 10. You must pass both to graduate from high school. Learn more about other ways to meet the GQE requirement below.

AREN'T THERE OTHER END-OF-COURSE TESTS I HAVE TO TAKE?

Yes. You also will take end-of-course exams in Algebra II, Biology I, English 11 and U.S. History. Those tests are not currently required for graduation, but your school should be using them as regular tests or even final exams. Indiana's colleges and universities also look at your results on these tests to help figure out how well you've mastered these subjects.

I TOOK THE ALGEBRA I END-OF-COURSE EXAM ALREADY. DOES THAT COUNT FOR THE GQE?

Check with your school counselor to see if you've already met the requirement.

WHEN ARE THE EXAMS?

The exams will be given at various times during the year, depending on when you complete each course. For most students, that will be in late spring.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T PASS?

You will have the opportunity to retake the end-of-course exams. Talk to your school counselor for more information.

WHAT IF I HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS?

- ✓ If you have an Individualized Education Program or Section 504 Plan, any instructional or testing accommodations included in your plan can be followed for the GQE.
- ✓ Students who have limited English proficiency may receive accommodations for the test.
- ✓ Talk to your parents and school counselor.



MEET THE GQE REQUIREMENT

Because reading, writing and math are fundamental to everything you do in life, the GQE requirement must be met before you can graduate. The GQE requirement can be met in the following ways:

1. Pass the GQE.
2. Fulfill the requirements of the official GQE evidence-based or work-readiness waivers.

Go to www.IndianaGQE.com or see your school counselor for full details and to learn more.

* Or Integrated Mathematics II



GQE Requirement at a Glance

Testing date	Subjects	Types of questions
When you complete the course	Algebra I	Multiple choice and short answer
When you complete the course	English 10	Multiple choice, essay and short answer

GQE Reality check

What you learn in high school prepares you for college, the workforce and the rest of your life. Solid reading, writing and math skills are must-haves for a successful future. This year, to ensure you master these basics on your way to earning a high school diploma, you will take Indiana's Graduation Qualifying Exam (GQE) for the first time. You have to meet the GQE requirement to get your high school diploma.

Meet the GQE requirement

Because reading, writing and math are fundamental to everything you'll do in life, the GQE requirement must be met before you can graduate. The GQE requirement can be met in the following ways:

1. Pass the GQE.
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Go to www.IndianaGQE.com or see your school counselor for full details and to learn more.

Why am I taking a graduation exam now?

- ✓ The GQE is based on Indiana's Academic Standards and includes content covered before grade 10:
 - English/language arts through grade 9, and
 - Mathematics through grade 8, plus Algebra I.
- ✓ Taking the test for the first time in 10th grade provides time to get extra help if necessary and additional opportunities to take the test again.

When is the GQE?

- ✓ You take it for the first time the fall of your sophomore year.
- ✓ The test takes about six hours total (over three days).
- ✓ You have to be present for all three testing days.
- ✓ There are no make-ups.

What if I don't pass?

- ✓ Ask your teacher and school counselor about extra help in areas where you didn't pass.
- ✓ You can retake the test at least four more times (September and March of your junior and senior years).
- ✓ Once you pass a specific part of the test, you don't have to retake that section.
- ✓ There are other ways to meet the GQE requirement (see box).

What if I have special needs?

- ✓ If you have an Individualized Education Program or Section 504 Plan, any instructional or testing accommodations included in your plan can be followed for the GQE.
- ✓ Students who have limited English proficiency may receive accommodations for the test.
- ✓ Talk to your parents and school counselor.

What do the GQE changes mean for me?

You may have heard about changes Indiana is making to the GQE. Students in grade 9 and below will now take end-of-course assessments rather than one test in 10th grade to meet the GQE requirement.

Those changes don't affect you. You still need to take and pass the 10th grade GQE to graduate. You may take some end-of-course exams as well, but those do not count

toward the GQE requirement for students who are in 10th grade this year.

You should still do your best on the end-of-course exams. Your school should be using them as regular tests or even final exams. Indiana's colleges and universities also look at your results on these tests to help figure out how well you've mastered these subjects.

**10TH
GRADE**

GQE Requirement at a Glance

Testing date	Subjects	Types of questions
Fall of sophomore year	English/language arts through grade 9 Math through grade 8, plus Algebra I	Multiple choice, essay and short answer